

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re Application of:**  
**Furman et al.**

**Serial No.: 09/726,769**

**Filed: November 29, 2000**

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**Group Art Unit: 1773**

**Examiner: Hoa T. Le**

**Atty. Docket: SwRI-2749A**

**For: Methods of Functionalizing and Functionalized Metal Oxide Particles and Mechanically Strong and Transparent or Translucent Composites Made Using Zirconium Oxide Nanoparticles**

**RESPONSE TO FIFTH OFFICE ACTION**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO BOX 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

This paper is filed in response to the fourth office action mailed July 28, 2004.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 31 of this paper.